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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

FLC 009-87

FLG-008-87

4 August 1987

Foreign Language Committee

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members of the FLC's Language Career Task Force

FROM:

Chairman, Language Career Task Force

SUBJECT:

Recommendations for Improving Language Field--ACTION MEMO

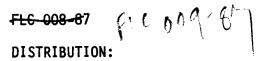
- 1. It's time for our task force to move on to the next stage of its work and start to formulate concrete recommendations for the Foreign Language Committee. We have had a chance to identify and discuss some of the basic problems in the language career field—such as low self-esteem among linguists, the desire to transfer to another field, the "burn-out" phenomenon, lack of opportunities for professional growth for senior linguists, and the need for more emphasis on a technical track and on recognizing the value of language skills.
- 2. With all of this in mind, you are now requested to draw up, in as much detail as possible and with the appropriate justification, your draft proposals. These will form the basis our further discussion and work. We have already, for example, mentioned the possibility of inter-Agency rotational tours and in-country training/work opportunities you may want to elaborate on these ideas as well. Please send your proposed recommendations to me by 15 September. If possible, you are also requested to send a short description (or my formal documentation, if such exists) of any language incentive program that your agency/service is employing.

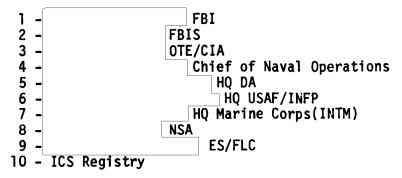
3. I hope that you will devote to this task the serious attention it deserves. We need to work as hard as we can to improve the quality of the language field, and your efforts will certainly be appreciated by all the linguists of the Intelligence Community. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or problems.

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